

CHIRO NEWS

A publication of the Maryland Board of Chiropractic Examiners
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Summer 2016



A Message from the President

Dear Licensees:

The Maryland State Board of Chiropractic & Massage Therapy Examiners (the “Board”) has seen numerous changes this last year. I took the presidential reins from Dr. Michael Fedorczyk in July 2015. I am grateful for Dr. Fedorczyk’s leadership and dedication to the mission of the Board; that of protecting the citizens of Maryland and promoting quality health care in the fields of chiropractic and massage therapy.

After the death of Executive Director, James Vallone, in December 2014, the Board was led by Mr. Richard Procter, Interim Executive Director.. In July 2015, the Board hired Laurie Sheffield-James as Executive Director.

This year has seen many exciting and new developments. Perhaps the greatest development was the passage of a bill introduced by the Maryland Massage Therapy Association by the Maryland legislature. The bill mandated the splitting of the Board into two separate boards: one to regulate chiropractors; and the other to regulate massage therapists and massage practitioners.

Once the bill was introduced to the legislature, the Board held an emergency public meeting to listen to what stakeholders from the chiropractic and massage therapy community had to say about the possibility of two separate boards. The Board also heard from representatives of Maryland community colleges with massage therapy education programs, the Maryland Massage Therapy Association, and the Maryland Chiropractic Association; all of whom supported the legislation. After considerable discussion and deliberation, the Board concluded that passage of the bill was in the public’s best interest as the two professions are fundamentally distinct.

As most of you know, the mission of the Board is to protect the public and promote quality health care in the fields of chiropractic and massage therapy by:

- Licensing applicants while insuring competency through continuing education;
- Receiving and resolving complaints from the public regarding licensees who may have violated the law and its regulations; and
- Setting standards for the practice of the profession that reflect new and emergent trends and developments through regulations and legislation.

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CHIRO/MT BOARD MEETING DATES:

(Board meetings commence at 10a.m. unless otherwise noted)

July 14, 2016

August 11, 2016

September 8, 2016

BOARD CHIRO DATES

Oct. 13, 2016

November 10, 2015

December 8, 2016

BOARD MASSAGE THERAPY DATES

October 27, 2016

November (TBD)

December 22, 2016

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The Board reasoned that subject matter experts and consumers are best equipped to vet applications for licensure and renewal, to review and resolve complaints, and to set standards for the profession. Consequently, effective October 1, 2016, the Board of Massage Therapy Examiners will consist of 5 massage therapists and 2 consumer members and the Board of Chiropractic Examiners will consist of 5 chiropractors and 2 consumer members. It is the Board's opinion that two autonomous boards will best serve the interests of the public.

There is much to do prior to October 1, 2016. Our most immediate need is to identify massage therapists who would like to serve on the new massage therapy board. If you know massage therapists who has been practicing in the State for at least 5 consecutive years, please let them know about this opportunity. They are welcome to contact the Board office for more information.

To keep up to date on issues surrounding the formation of the new boards as well as other interesting issues, plan on attending the current Board's open session meetings which are held the second Thursday of every month at 10am. Open session meetings are a great opportunity to meet board members, network with other professionals, and keep abreast of new developments. In addition, by attending the meeting, you are eligible to earn continuing education units (CEUs).

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Board office at (410)764-4726.

Best wishes,

Jonathan Nou, D.C.
Board President

The great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving.

Oliver Wendell Holmes



Continuing Education Units for Board

Attendance

In an effort to encourage licensees to attend Board meetings, the Board has decided that licensees may receive up to 10% of their CEUs by attending Open Session Board meetings. One CEU will be given to Board attendees for each Board meeting. Simply attend an entire Open Session meeting, sign your name on the attendance roster and receive your free CEU.

You will receive valuable information at Board Meetings including: possible regulation changes, statutory changes, possible policy and process changes and more. It is your change to meet all the Board members ...and to express your opinion.

welcome

New 2016 Chiropractic licensees

Christian Alfano, DC	Bryon Lam, DC
Paul Battaglia, DC	Heather Meinke, DC
Megan Bean, DC	Erik Murphy, DC
Jeremy Cayer, DC	Moses Ogbemudia, DC
Sarah Corcoran, DC	Paul Pettay, DC
Jacob Green, DC	Michael Sharkey, DC
Matthew Hecht, DC	Andrew Toth, DC
Timothy Hui, DC	Rachel Weene, DC
Nicole Jones, DC	Anna Welty, DC
Kaykavoos Kashi, DC	Michael Williamson, DC
Manpreet Keith, DC	

DISCIPLINARY CASE SUMMARIES
FORMAL PUBLIC ORDERS- Chiropractic

- **PABOUET-SIGAFOOSE, CAREY, APPLICANT** 9/10/15: Consent Order: License reinstated; minimum probation period of 3 years subject to terms and conditions.
- **MALOUF, JORGE, DC** 9/16/15: Letter of Surrender (5yrs): unethical conduct; false report(s) or record (s); unprofessional conduct; false statements to collect fees for which services were not rendered.
- **STARR, JOEL, DC** 1/21/16: Consent Order: Formal reprimand; License suspended for minimum period of 1 year subject to terms and conditions; providing professional service while under influence of alcohol, committing an act of unprofessional conduct, being physically or mentally impaired to the extent that it impaired ability to practice
- **TARQUINI, FRANK E., DC** 3/18/16: Consent Order: Summary suspension terminated; license suspended for one year subject to terms and conditions, followed by probation period of 5 years subject to terms and conditions.



Chiropractors Supervising Chiropractic Assistants

The Board has seen a number of complaints involving chiropractors who are not actively supervising their chiropractic assistants. This is of concern to the Board as failing to actively supervise is a violation of the Board's regulations. In an effort to bring supervising chiropractors in compliance, beginning August 11, 2016, chiropractic candidates taking the Jurisprudence Exam will be trained in the Board's process and regulations regarding supervising chiropractic assistants. Please remember that the law governing chiropractic assistants must be taken seriously!

New Staff

The Board is pleased to announce the hiring of Laurie Sheffield-James, M.Div., as Executive Director to the Board. Laurie has been working for Maryland Health Occ. Regulatory Boards for the last 14 years. Prior to her work as a regulator, Laurie was the Executive Director of Sarah's House a 110 bed homeless shelter.

Laurie looks forward to working for the Board and learning all she can about the field of Chiropractic. She recently had her first neck adjustment – and reports a positive outcome!

Kim Link joined the Board's staff as an Administrative Officer. Kim graduated from law school with her J.D. She brings a wealth of knowledge, legal and otherwise, to the Board. Welcome, Kim.

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Life is a progress, and not a station

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

(To be submitted every time a licensee changes mailing address)

The Board regulations require all licensees to maintain a current address with the Board. **There is a \$200. penalty for failure to maintain a current address with the Board.** If you have recently moved or are planning a move, please complete and mail the following:

I, _____, submit that my current official mailing address is

_____.

The change was/is effective on _____. New phone is _____,

E-mail address is: _____.

Chiropractor signature _____ Date _____.

Mail to: **MD Board of Chiropractic Examiners, Suite 301, 4201 Patterson Ave., Baltimore, MD 21215-2299**

Attn Ms. Jones